

Message Text

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PAGE 01 THE HA 02070 141608Z

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 TRSE-00 OMB-01 ABF-01

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-09 NEA-10

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R 141503Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7977

UNCLAS THE HAGUE 2070

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ABUD, AORG, US

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS: INTERNATIONAL BUREAU
OF THE PERMANENT COURT OF ARBITRATION

REF: STATE 085202

1. COUNCIL OF PERMANENT COURT OF ARBITRATION MET APRIL 13
AND APPROVED AGENDA PROVIDED IN THE HAGUE 1520. IN LIGHT
OF CHARACTER OF COUNCIL MEETING WE PLAN TO TAKE UP WITH
SECRETARY GENERAL DEPARTMENT'S REQUEST THAT BUDGET BE
EXPLAINED IN SOMEWHAT MORE DETAIL NEXT YEAR. HOWEVER, IT
MAY BE NOTED THAT IN PRESENTING BUDGET TO COUNCIL, SECRETARY
GENERAL EXPLAINED BASIS FOR CHANGES IN 1976 BUDGET. MAIN
INCREASE IS IN ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION FOR RENT IN PEACE PALACE,
FIRST INCREASE SINCE 1948. INCREASE IN SECOND CATEGORY,
WHICH COVERS SALARIES OF EMPLOYEES, IS ONLY FL.2000
(\$1 EQUALS FL.2.68) WHICH SYG NOTED REFLECTED COST-OF-LIVING
INCREASE TO MAINTAIN EQUIVALENCE WITH DUTCH CIVIL SERVICE;
HE ADDED THAT INCREASE WOULD HAVE BEEN GREATER EXCEPT THAT SENIOR
SECRETARY HAD RETIRED AND BEEN REPLACED BY NEW EMPLOYEE AT
CONSIDERABLY LOWER SALARY LEVEL AND USHER WAS NOW ONLY ON
PART-TIME BASIS.

2. RESPECTING CASH RESERVE, EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT IN-
TENTION IS TO BUILD IT UP GRADUALLY AND THAT PRESENT FL.10,000
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PAGE 02 THE HA 02070 141608Z

IS NOT "CEILING." WE WILL SEEK TO CLARIFY THIS POINT IN

SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATIONS.

3. IN PRESENT BUDGET SYG NOTED THAT SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS, WHICH IS BASED ON UPU SYSTEM, WOULD BE CHANGED EFFECTIVE FOR THE NEXT BUDGET IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE UPU DECISION AT LAUSANNE IN 1974 WHICH ALSO BECOMES EFFECTIVE FOR 1976. UNDER NEW FORMULA THERE WILL BE TOTAL OF 792 UNITS OF WHICH US SHARE IS 50 UNITS, EACH UNIT AMOUNTING TO FL.247.60. NEW SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS WILL BE CIRCULATED TO MEMBERS IN NEAR FUTURE. REPRESENTATIVES OF SPAIN AND AUSTRIA ENTERED RESERVATIONS ON NEW SCALE, EXPLAINING THAT IN CASE OF SPAIN APPROVAL OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS WAS REQUIRED AND IN AUSTRIAN CASE PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL. NEITHER FORESAW ANY PROBLEM.

4. SECRETARY GENERAL INDICATED HE WOULD SOON SUBMIT NEW LIST OF MEMBERS OF COURT, NOTING THAT HAITI, LAOS AND PAKISTAN HAD COMPLETELY CHANGED THEIR RESPECTIVE MEMBERS.

5. DUTCH FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER STOEL CONCLUDED MEETING BY EMPHASIZING IMPORTANCE OF BUREAU OF THE PERMANENT COURT OF ARBITRATION. HE NOTED THAT NUMBER OF DISPUTES WAS NOT DIMINISHING AND EXPRESSED CONVICTION THAT ARBITRATION FREQUENTLY PROVIDED SATISFACTORY MEANS FOR SETTling DISPUTES. GON HOPED IN COMING YEARS MORE USE WOULD BE MADE OF THIS INSTITUTION (SYG HAD EARLIER NOTED FRENCH-GERMAN USE OF COURT ON CONTINENTAL SHELF ISSUE WITH ARBITRATORS REGRETTABLY MEETING IN GENEVA RATHER THAN THE HAGUE). FONMIN ALSO CALLED ATTENTION TO FACT NUMBER OF COUNTRIES WERE IN ARREARS (13 FOR 1974 AND SEVEN FROM 1972). HE URGED ALL TO PAY CONTRIBUTIONS PROMPTLY. BROWN

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